

1967

Newspaper Articles; 125th Anniversary; 1967

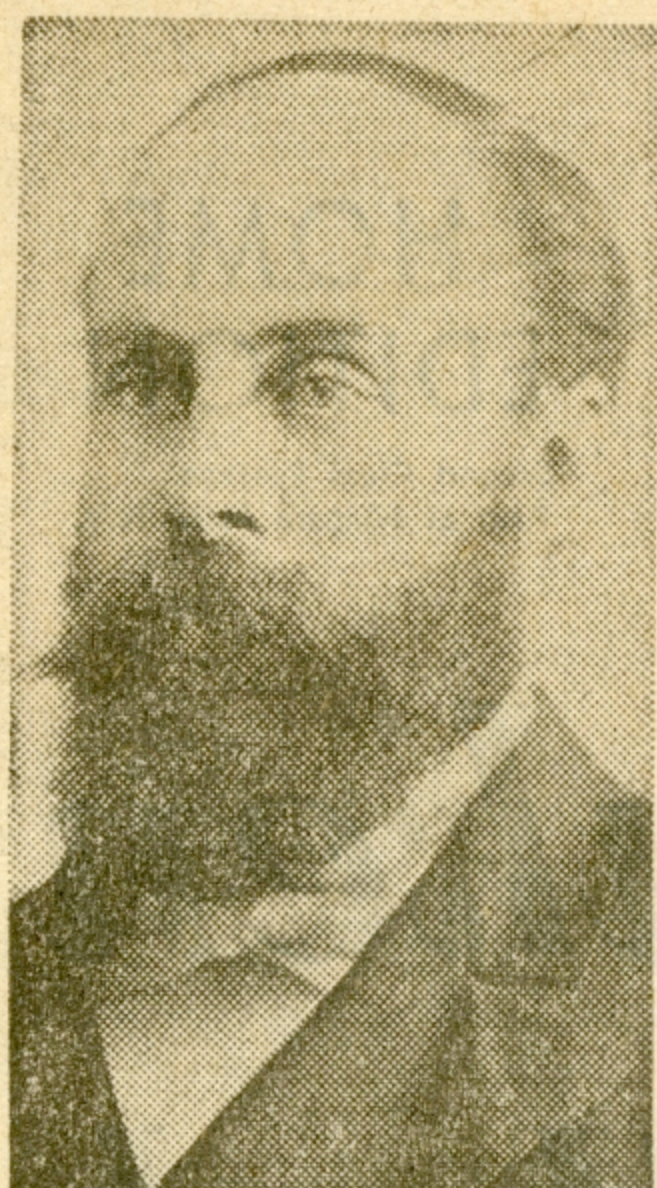
First Baptist Church of Niagara Falls

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REV. G. H. KEMP
1886-88



REV. H. VICTOR KANE
1947-55



REV. PIERRE TANGENT
PRESENT PASTOR

Baptist Church Opens Week Celebration

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH will open its week-long 125th anniversary celebration Sunday with a former pastor as guest speaker at the 11 a.m. worship service.

The Rev. H. Victor Kane, pastor here from 1947 to 1955, will have as his topic "Never the Same River."

Now pastor of First Baptist Church, Binghamton, the Rev. Mr. Kane is a former executive secretary of both the New York State Baptist Convention and the Ministers and Missionaries Board of the American Baptist Convention, Valley Forge, Pa.

Also planned for Sunday are an old-time hymn sing at 7:30 p.m., with the church sanctuary transformed to resemble its appearance 30 years ago, and a social hour at 8:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

The Rev. Mr. Kane will speak again Wednesday at an anniversary dinner at the Parkway Inn at 6:30 p.m. His topic will be "It Did Happen Here." Movies of the church facilities and members during the 100th and 125th years will be shown.

Dinner reservations may be made with Mrs. Edwin Trask by Monday.

Members of the Inasmuch Class at the church will be hostesses for a homecoming tea next Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m., in the church fellowship hall.

ANOTHER FORMER pastor, the Rev. Edward H. Gun-

ther, will be speaker at the 11 a.m. worship service Nov. 19.

The Rev. Mr. Gunther served the church here from 1961 to 1966, leaving to accept a post as executive secretary of the Buffalo and Erie County unit of the New York State Baptist Convention. He was succeeded by the present pastor the Rev. Pierre Tangent.

An anniversary commemoration and rededication service at 4 p.m. next Sunday will conclude the week's program.

As part of the anniversary celebration, the church is preparing a pictorial directory of all members and their families. All programs during the week are open to the public.

General chairman of the week's activities is Robert Confer. "Out of the past . . . the future" is the over-all theme of the anniversary celebration.

In conjunction with the celebration, the congregation is conducting its annual fund campaign, "In Response to God's Love."

THE CHURCH was organized in 1842 when 13 members of the Baptist church in Lewiston petitioned for permission for Baptists in Niagara Falls to separate and establish their own, fully constituted church.

Members met to worship in each other's homes until 1855, when the first permanent

home was dedicated. Located at First and Thomas streets, the building served the needs of a large number of area Baptists for almost 50 years.

In 1901, after years of steady growth in the congregation, a new church building was dedicated. It is this same church building, located at Main and Fourth streets, which continues as the home of today's congregation.

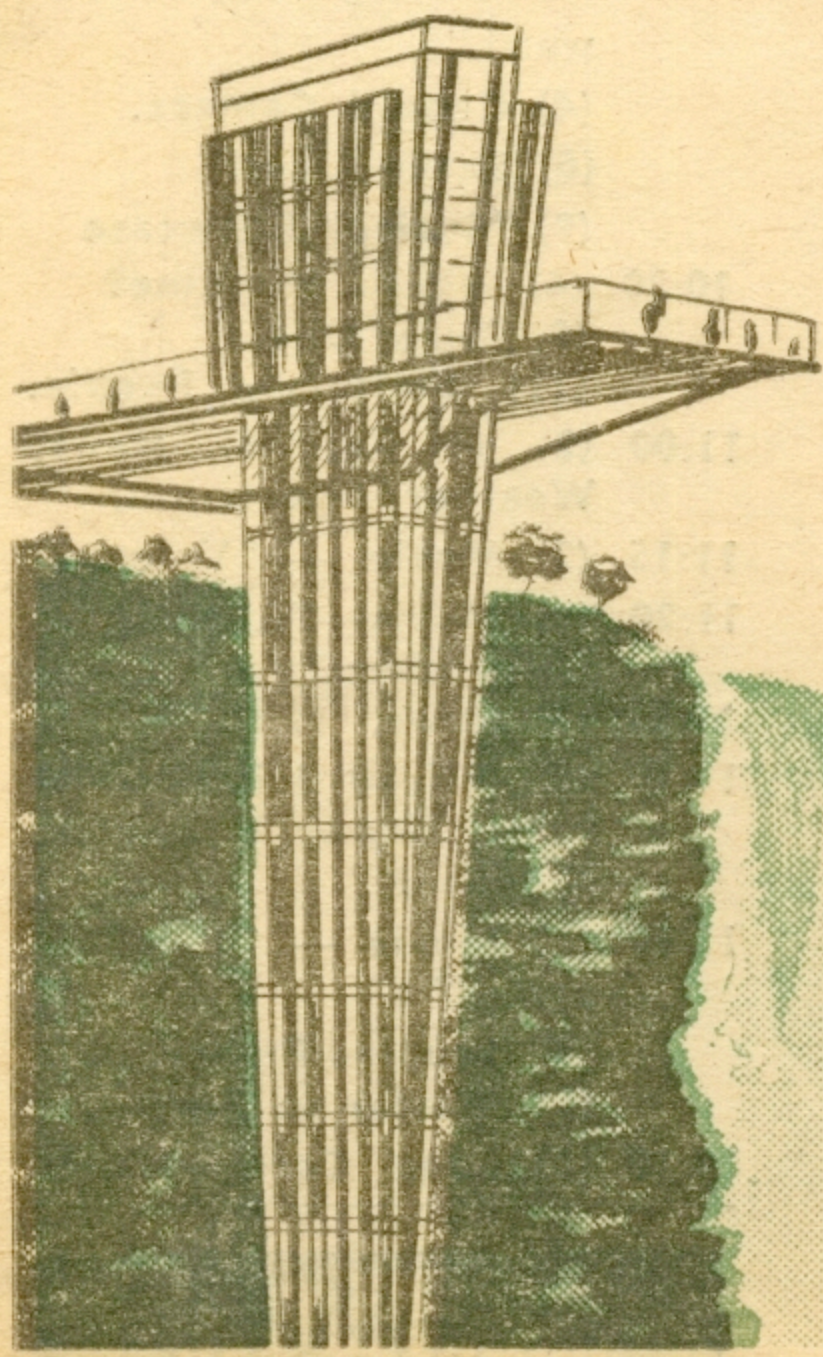
Plans are now under consideration for a new building. Location and construction date are both indefinite.

* * *

TWENTY - THREE MEN, including the present pastor, the Rev. Mr. Tangent, have served the church in its 125-year history. The ministers, with their dates of service, are as follows: Adam Cleg-horn, 1841-42 and 1844; Jacob Blain, 1843; Joseph B. Vrooman, 1844-45; Charles Key-ser, 1854-57; E. T. Robinson, 1859-60; H. W. Barnes, 1866-70.

Also, A. M. Tennant, 1872-74; Evangelists Brand and Caldwell, 1885-86; G. H. Kemp, 1886-88; George T. Webb, 1883-93; L. A. Mitchell, 1894-97; James Rae, 1898-99; Abner F. Bowling, 1899-1905; and John F. Vassar, 1907-16.

And, Charles J. McLean, 1916-20; Arthur B. Mercer, 1921-26; Eugene G. Mintz, 1927-31; Charles R. Osborne, 1931-47; H. Victor Kane, 1947-55; Eric L. A. Hill, 1957-61; Edward H. Gunther, 1961-66; and Pierre Tangent, present pastor.



NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE

SUNDAY Magazine

TV ★ Radio ★ Records ★ Puzzles ★ Features ★ Books



Sunday TV Highlights

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Week of April 18 to 24

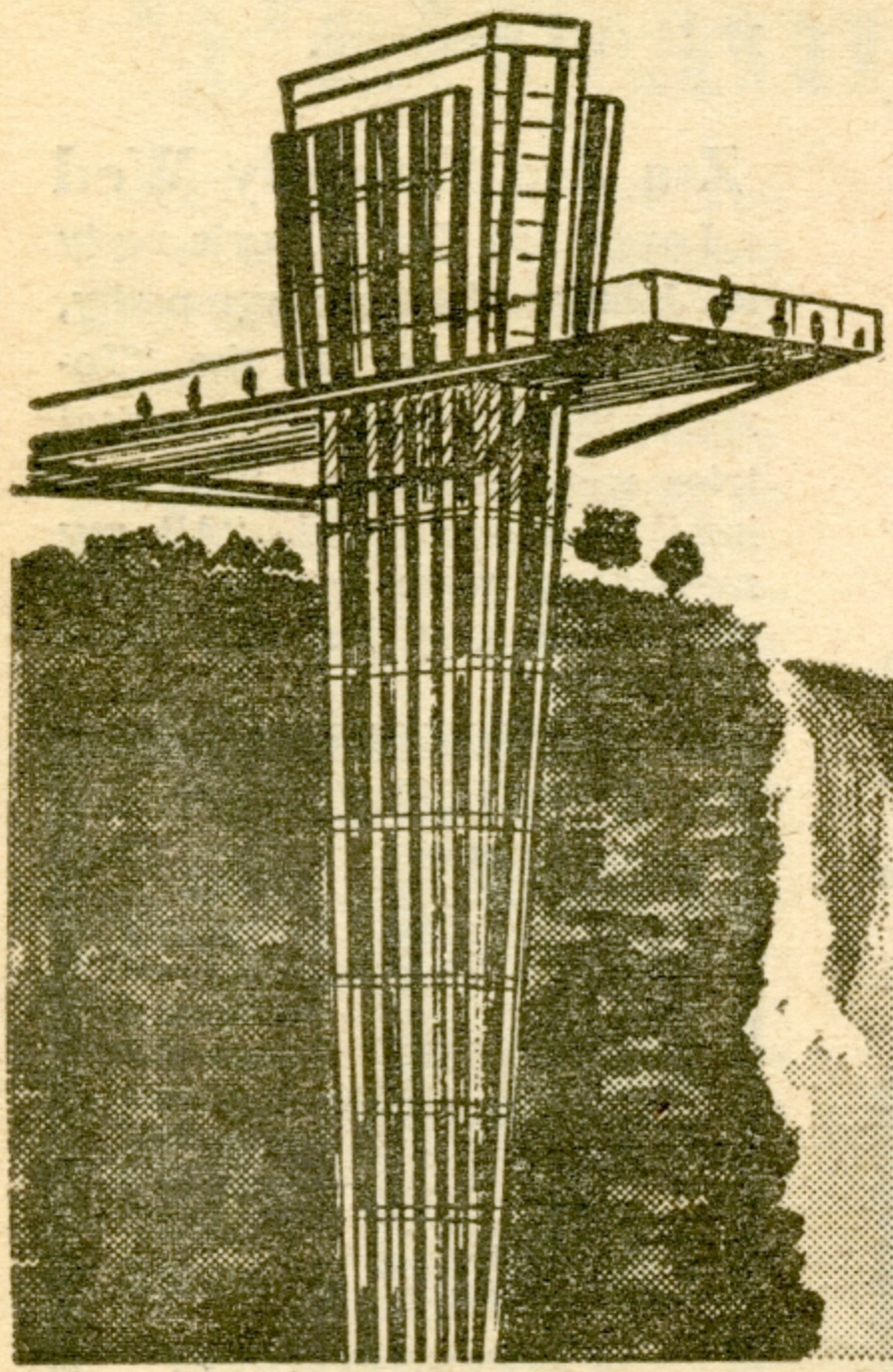
Interior Decor Varies

What Falls Churches Look Like Inside

... See Pages 10, 11

NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE

SUNDAY Magazine



TV ★ Radio ★ Records ★ Puzzles ★ Features ★ Books



**First Baptist Church
Marks Anniversary**

... See Pages 10, 11

Sunday TV Highlights

... Page 3

Week of Nov. 12 to 18



MISSIONARY PAGEANT ON OCT. 1, 1931



NIAGARA COUNTY BYPU SPRING RALLY AT CHURCH



THE CHURCH YMBC YEARS AGO



REV. CHARLES J. McLEAN
Pastor 1916-20



REV. ARTHUR B. MERCER
Pastor 1921-26



REV. EUGENE G. MINTZ
Pastor 1927-31



CORNERSTONE OF CHURCH IS LAID IN 1900



KNIGHTS OF THE ROUNDTABLE IN 1929: First row, from left, Bill Billings, Robert Wetzel, Neville Shiffer, unknown and Harry Barrett. Second row, unknown, Russell Wixson, Claire

Armstrong, unknown. Third row, unknown, Harold Banks, Willis Ferris, unknown, unknown, unknown, Robert McConnel. At top, unknown.

First Baptist Church Marks Anniversary

The First Baptist Church will be marking its 125th anniversary this week.

The church was organized in 1842 with 11 members who met in each other's homes to worship. The first church building was erected at First and Thomas Streets in 1854 and the present church was built in 1900. A new church is being planned.

In conjunction with the celebration, the congregation is conducting its annual fund campaign.

General chairman of the week's activities is Robert Conner.

Current pastor is Rev. Pierre Tanguet.

Rev. H. Victor Kaas of Binghamton, formerly a pastor of the church, was speaker at the 11 a.m. service today.

The celebration will close next Sunday at 4 p.m. with an anniversary commemoration and rededication service.

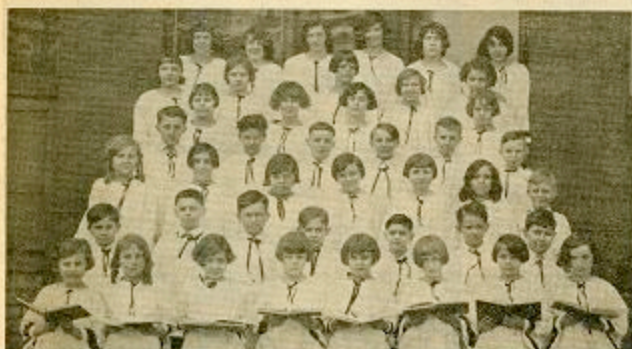
All services are open to the public.



REV. JOHN VASSAR
Pastor 1907-1916



REV. GEORGE T. WEBB, Pastor 1888-93,
Wife and Daughter



JUNIOR CHOIR TAKEN ABOUT 1930



VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL IN 1960

About the Cover

The First Baptist Church at Fourth Street and Main Street. The church was erected in 1900.